

# Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly  
Report



U. S. Department of  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

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## Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended March 31, 1956

The cumulative total number of poliomyelitis cases reported in the first quarter of 1956 is almost the same as that reported in the same period of 1955. However, the number of paralytic cases is about 26 percent greater for this period of 1956 as compared with that for last year. The number of non-paralytic cases is essentially the same for the 2 periods, but the number of unspecified is less for 1956 than for 1955. The numbers and percentages of cases by type are shown below. exclusive of Montana;

	1956		1955	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total -----	1,068	100.0	1,052	100.0
Paralytic -----	582	54.5	457	43.4
Nonparalytic--	285	26.7	287	27.3
Unspecified---	201	18.8	308	29.3

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

#### Influenza

The following reports have been received by the Influenza Information Center, NIH, and the National Office of Vital Statistics.

Dr. Henry Bauer, Minnesota Department of Health, reports the isolation of influenza A (FM1-1947) from throat washing material collected March 7, 1956. Serologic diagnosis of influenza A has also been made in two patients with onset of symptoms during the middle of March.

The Preventive Medicine Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Department of the Navy, reports the serologic diagnosis of influenza A in a patient at a naval installation in Virginia, who had an onset of illness the latter part of February.

Dr. E. H. Lennette, California State Department of Public Health, reports the serologic diagnosis of influenza A in 22 cases from California for the 2 weeks ending March 30, 1956.

Dr. J. D. Martin, Louisiana Department of Health, has given information on paired blood specimens submitted from persons with influenza-like symptoms. Complement fixation tests on specimens from 13 patients showed a rise in titer for influenza A. Only 1 showed a reaction to influenza B, giving a fourfold rise in titer, from 1:8 to 1:32.

The World Health Organization, Geneva, states that the numbers of deaths from influenza and pneumonia reported to the Registrar General of England have increased sharply. However, clinical reports from most parts of the country suggest that mild influenzal illness declined during March. Serologic evidence of influenza A has been obtained in a large proportion of tests on cases of respiratory disease.

#### Anthrax

Dr. John Mason, New Mexico Department of Public Health, has reported 2 cases of anthrax in persons who assisted in butchering a sick buffalo. The patients became ill with acute onset, high fever, regional lymphadenopathy, and a typical abscess on the right hand of each. Both responded satisfactorily to antibiotic therapy. Anthrax organisms could not be isolated

from the abscesses or from fluid aspirated from the swollen lymph nodes.

An investigation revealed that 4 buffaloes of a herd had died recently and the meat was used for food. Accurate clinical histories or post-mortem findings could not be obtained. Fortunately, the head of the last buffalo that died had been saved for use in Indian ceremonial dances. Laboratory examination of brain tissue from the animal revealed the presence of anthrax organisms on the basis of morphology, cultural characteristics, animal inoculations, and bacteriophage typing. The identity of the organism was confirmed by the Communicable Disease Center Laboratory at Chamblee, Georgia.

The North Carolina State Board of Health has reported 4 cases of human anthrax recently. The patients were employed in a goat hair canvas manufacturing plant where 3 other cases have occurred since 1953. In each case, headache, backache, malaise, fever, sweats, chilly sensations, and typical lesion evolution from vesicle to black eschar were noted. Each lesion was shown to be positive for B. anthracis on culture. Following the administration of penicillin and a broad spectrum antibiotic, each patient recovered promptly.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, has reported a suspect case of human anthrax in a 45-year-old farm woman. The patient has lived on the same farm for 17 years. She bruised her knuckle on a cow horn and a large swelling developed involving the hand. Several lesions developed and the principal one resembled that of anthrax. Microscopic examination of material taken from the lesion 3 days after initiation of penicillin treatment was reported negative for anthrax bacillus. An investigation revealed that sheep (never more than 2) have been kept on the farm continuously for years. These have always been healthy and so have all other animals on the farm. The patient was sorting some 2-year-old wool from these sheep on the day her lesion developed. Bacteriologic examination of specimens of the wool submitted to the laboratory revealed no anthrax bacillus. This farm sold horses to the zoo where an outbreak of anthrax occurred more than a year ago, but no relationship was established.

#### Listeriosis

Dr. John Mason, New Mexico Department of Public Health, has reported a case of listeriosis in an adult male. His illness was characterized by abrupt onset, influenza-like symptoms, high fever, and severe pain in the back of the neck. On culture of spinal fluid an organism was isolated which was later identified as Listeria monocytogenes. The patient did not respond to initial therapy with penicillin and streptomycin, but showed gradual improvement over a 10-day period with gantrisin. There were no residual manifestations. There is no history of known exposure to animals, and investigations to determine the possible source of infection are in progress.

#### Psittacosis

Dr. D. S. Fleming, Minnesota Department of Health, has reported a case of psittacosis in a 54-year-old woman. Confirmation was by a fourfold rise in complement fixation titer for psittacosis. The patient's illness was characterized by chills, fever, and cough. A chest X-ray showed involvement of

left upper and lower lobes. She has no birds in her home but is employed in a store as a clerk handling parakeets. The source of birds in the store is a bird company in Chicago.

#### Tularemia

Dr. E. J. Witte, Division of Veterinary Public Health, Pennsylvania Department of Health, has reported 2 cases of tularemia in a man and wife who handled wild rabbits killed in the central part of the State. Both cases were reported to be ulceroglandular in type with some pulmonary involvement in the wife. Agglutination tests on the husband 6 weeks apart yielded titers of 1:20 and 1:80, respectively. No tests were performed on the wife. Aureomycin was used in the treatment, and both patients have apparently recovered.

#### Toxoplasmosis in cats

The California Department of Public Health has reported 2 cases of toxoplasmosis in cats. The first cat died after a 48-hour illness, during which the animal bit its owner. Because of the bite and because of the obscure nature of the illness, the cat's brain was examined to exclude the possibility of rabies. No Negri bodies were found but atypical inclusion bodies were

present. Later the disease was confirmed as toxoplasmosis. It is believed that the cat was infected with toxoplasma parasites from rodents since this parasitic infection is common in rats and mice. The owner, who was bitten, apparently suffered no ill effects. The second case of toxoplasmosis was in a cat that died of an illness apparently encephalitic in nature. Ten days previous the cat came home with cuts around the mouth. Within 4 or 5 days, the animal became clumsy and incoordinate, was irritable, and did not recognize members of the family. Examination of brain tissue showed no Negri bodies but nerve cells contained inclusion bodies similar to those found in the first cat. The cat had close contact with 2 children, 1 of which became severely ill concurrent with the last phases of the cat's illness. This child's temperature rose and he developed a cough, rhinitis, and lethargy. According to the physician there has been no satisfactory response to any of the antibiotics used. The other child has developed a fever and severe headache.

#### Erythema infectiosum

The California Department of Public Health has reported an outbreak of erythema infectiosum in Napa County. Over a

Continued on page 8

Table 1. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

(Numbers after diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

DISEASE	13th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Mar. 31, 1956 <sup>1</sup>	Ended Apr. 2, 1955 <sup>1</sup>	Median 1951-55	First 13 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1956 <sup>1</sup>	1955 <sup>1</sup>	Median 1951-55	1955-56	1954-55	Median 1950-51 to 1954-55	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	14	9	10	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	-	4	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	19	23	---	222	280	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	16	34	50	530	458	612	1,860	1,677	2,261	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	35	40	28	307	300	271	1,258	1,652	998	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	433	757	---	6,370	11,956	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	3	5	---	37	48	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Measles-----085	24,724	22,893	22,895	186,020	232,460	226,882	218,151	287,089	262,167	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	67	78	116	970	1,261	1,477	1,893	2,312	2,746	Sept. 1
Meningitis, other-----340	29	---	---	403	---	---	---	---	---	---
Poliomyelitis-----080	90	59	67	1,068	1,052	1,318	29,278	38,248	35,940	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	11	3	---	93	90	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	3	2	2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Typhoid fever-----040	21	17	25	313	307	392	1,732	2,184	2,295	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	2	1	---	19	16	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rabies in animals-----	105	150	182	1,517	1,664	2,242	2,544	3,017	3,786	Oct. 1

<sup>1</sup>Data exclude report for Montana.

<sup>2</sup>Frequencies are too small.

#### SOURCE AND NATURE OF MORBIDITY DATA

These provisional data are based on reports to the Public Health Service from health departments of each State and of Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding Saturday. Cases of anthrax, botulism, rabies in man, and smallpox are not shown in table 2,

but a footnote to table 1 shows the States making the reports. In addition, when diseases of rare occurrence (cholera, dengue, plague, relapsing fever—louse borne, typhus fever—epidemic, and yellow fever) are reported, they will be noted at the end of table 1.

Symbols.—1 dash [—]: no cases reported; 3 dashes [---]: data not available; parentheses [( )]: data not included in total<sup>2</sup>.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED APRIL 2, 1955 AND MARCH 31, 1956

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	BRUCELLOSIS (UNDULANT FEVER)		DIPHTHERIA 055				ENCEPHALITIS, INFECTIOUS		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM 092, N998.5 pt.			
	044		13th week		Cumulative first 13 weeks		082		13th week		Cumulative first 13 weeks	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES <sup>1</sup> -----	19	23	16	34	530	458	35	40	433	757	6,370	11,956
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	1	-	1	4	11	-	-	31	89	446	1,122
Maine-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	21	107	97
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	2	16	42
Vermont-----	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	67	88
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	1	3	10	-	-	7	29	97	413
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	50	163
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	22	109	319
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	-	-	1	18	19	10	11	99	197	1,250	3,025
New York-----	-	-	-	1	7	12	10	9	50	112	695	1,570
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	2	8	16	110	198
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	-	41	69	445	1,257
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	4	5	4	4	110	64	1	11	85	89	1,036	1,773
Ohio-----	-	-	-	3	9	21	-	-	12	14	257	327
Indiana-----	-	-	1	-	59	28	-	9	19	19	149	265
Illinois-----	2	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	12	13	267	363
Michigan-----	2	1	2	1	40	11	1	1	14	33	223	563
Wisconsin-----	-	3	-	-	1	2	-	1	28	10	140	255
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	8	13	2	11	59	68	1	-	25	89	593	1,679
Minnesota-----	-	7	1	-	22	22	-	-	3	28	176	585
Iowa-----	6	4	-	-	13	4	-	-	9	11	146	520
Missouri-----	-	-	1	-	5	6	1	-	2	26	29	175
North Dakota-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	55	99
South Dakota-----	-	1	-	11	1	25	-	-	-	16	88	187
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	16	10	-	-	5	2	51	24
Kansas-----	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	48	89
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2	-	2	8	98	118	7	4	24	54	385	1,086
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	17
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	2	40	126
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	7	21
Virginia-----	2	-	1	1	15	9	1	1	12	30	167	489
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	1	4	3	-	-	1	5	17	140
North Carolina-----	-	-	-	1	16	19	1	2	1	6	39	131
South Carolina-----	-	-	1	2	12	22	1	-	1	4	14	23
Georgia-----	-	-	-	-	20	46	-	1	3	-	42	68
Florida-----	-	-	-	3	30	15	4	-	2	4	51	71
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	3	4	2	82	60	4	4	48	34	576	587
Kentucky-----	-	1	-	1	4	11	1	-	25	7	170	95
Tennessee-----	1	1	-	-	16	12	2	4	14	11	274	261
Alabama-----	-	1	-	1	45	25	1	-	7	9	54	121
Mississippi-----	-	-	4	-	17	12	-	-	2	7	78	110
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	3	1	4	7	124	101	-	-	37	39	468	587
Arkansas-----	1	-	2	1	13	5	-	-	7	12	52	90
Louisiana-----	-	-	-	2	12	15	-	-	-	2	20	39
Oklahoma-----	-	1	-	-	39	11	-	-	1	2	26	60
Texas-----	2	-	2	4	61	70	-	-	29	23	370	398
MOUNTAIN-----	-	-	-	-	11	1	1	-	30	54	541	825
Montana-----	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(2)	-	(-)	-	(4)	-	(88)
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	10	96	102
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	38	29
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	12	5	158	191
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	22	74	201
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	3	7	148	250
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	6	25	32
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	20
PACIFIC-----	-	-	-	-	24	16	11	10	54	112	1,075	1,272
Washington-----	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	14	22	241	264
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	8	37	210	348
California-----	-	-	-	-	14	11	11	10	32	53	624	660
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	24	108
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	17
Puerto Rico-----	1	-	-	3	15	25	-	-	3	2	67	16

<sup>1</sup>Data exclude report for Montana.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED APRIL 2, 1955 AND MARCH 31, 1956—Continued

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	POLIOMYELITIS 080								MALARIA		MEASLES	
	Total <sup>2</sup>				Paralytic		Nonparalytic					
	13th week		Cumulative first 13 weeks		080.0,080.1		080.2		110-117		085	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES <sup>1</sup> -----	90	59	1,068	1,052	37	25	35	17	3	5	24,724	22,893
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	2	35	25	-	2	1	-	-	1	461	4,630
Maine-----	-	1	7	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	210	328
New Hampshire-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	410
Vermont-----	1	1	7	11	-	1	1	-	-	-	14	302
Massachusetts-----	-	-	17	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	173	1,835
Rhode Island-----	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	256
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	1,499
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	7	8	77	126	1	1	4	1	-	-	3,312	5,462
New York-----	5	5	54	75	1	1	4	1	-	-	1,386	1,470
New Jersey-----	1	2	9	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	354	3,077
Pennsylvania-----	1	1	14	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,572	915
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	2	73	100	-	1	-	-	-	1	7,671	3,725
Ohio-----	2	-	18	24	-	-	-	-	-	1	2,576	728
Indiana-----	-	-	7	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	568	152
Illinois-----	1	2	11	18	-	1	-	-	-	-	1,804	409
Michigan-----	-	-	24	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,696	864
Wisconsin-----	-	-	13	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,027	1,572
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	2	5	51	80	1	2	1	1	-	-	1,584	1,277
Minnesota-----	1	1	8	12	-	1	1	-	-	-	10	330
Iowa-----	-	1	11	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	256	459
Missouri-----	1	1	14	11	1	1	-	-	-	-	338	316
North Dakota-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	103
South Dakota-----	-	-	8	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	3
Nebraska-----	-	-	2	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	122	3
Kansas-----	-	2	6	15	-	-	-	1	-	-	803	63
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	10	15	91	193	6	5	2	5	1	-	2,779	539
Delaware-----	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	3
Maryland-----	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	445	71
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122	14
Virginia-----	1	-	4	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	831	91
West Virginia-----	1	1	3	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	391	69
North Carolina-----	-	-	23	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	323	32
South Carolina-----	-	1	7	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	401	93
Georgia-----	1	3	12	18	-	2	1	1	1	-	100	110
Florida-----	7	10	37	118	4	2	1	4	-	-	150	56
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	6	1	45	61	2	1	2	-	1	1	1,293	452
Kentucky-----	6	-	18	22	2	-	2	-	-	1	571	45
Tennessee-----	-	-	7	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	422	163
Alabama-----	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	227	88
Mississippi-----	-	1	19	20	-	1	-	-	-	-	73	156
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	21	14	222	160	10	8	5	5	1	1	4,577	1,913
Arkansas-----	-	1	9	11	-	1	-	-	1	-	303	109
Louisiana-----	3	1	31	28	2	1	1	-	-	-	41	8
Oklahoma-----	1	-	10	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	494	95
Texas-----	17	12	172	105	8	6	4	5	-	1	3,739	1,701
MOUNTAIN-----	7	2	61	60	2	-	2	-	-	1	1,268	1,020
Montana-----	-	(2)	-	(11)	-	(2)	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(2)
Idaho-----	2	-	9	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	44	23
Wyoming-----	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	3
Colorado-----	-	-	7	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	620	114
New Mexico-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	130	291
Arizona-----	2	-	29	5	-	-	2	-	-	1	397	574
Utah-----	3	2	6	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	4
Nevada-----	-	-	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
PACIFIC-----	33	10	413	247	15	5	18	5	-	-	1,779	3,875
Washington-----	2	1	21	23	1	1	1	-	-	-	468	582
Oregon-----	-	2	27	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	129
California-----	31	7	365	203	14	2	17	5	-	-	1,274	3,164
Alaska-----	-	1	1	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	21	-
Hawaii-----	2	3	43	8	1	2	1	1	-	-	11	475
Puerto Rico-----	-	17	5	290	-	17	-	-	-	-	22	323

<sup>1</sup>Data exclude report for Montana.<sup>2</sup>Includes cases not specified by type, category number 080.3.<sup>3</sup>Includes delayed cases with onset late in 1954.

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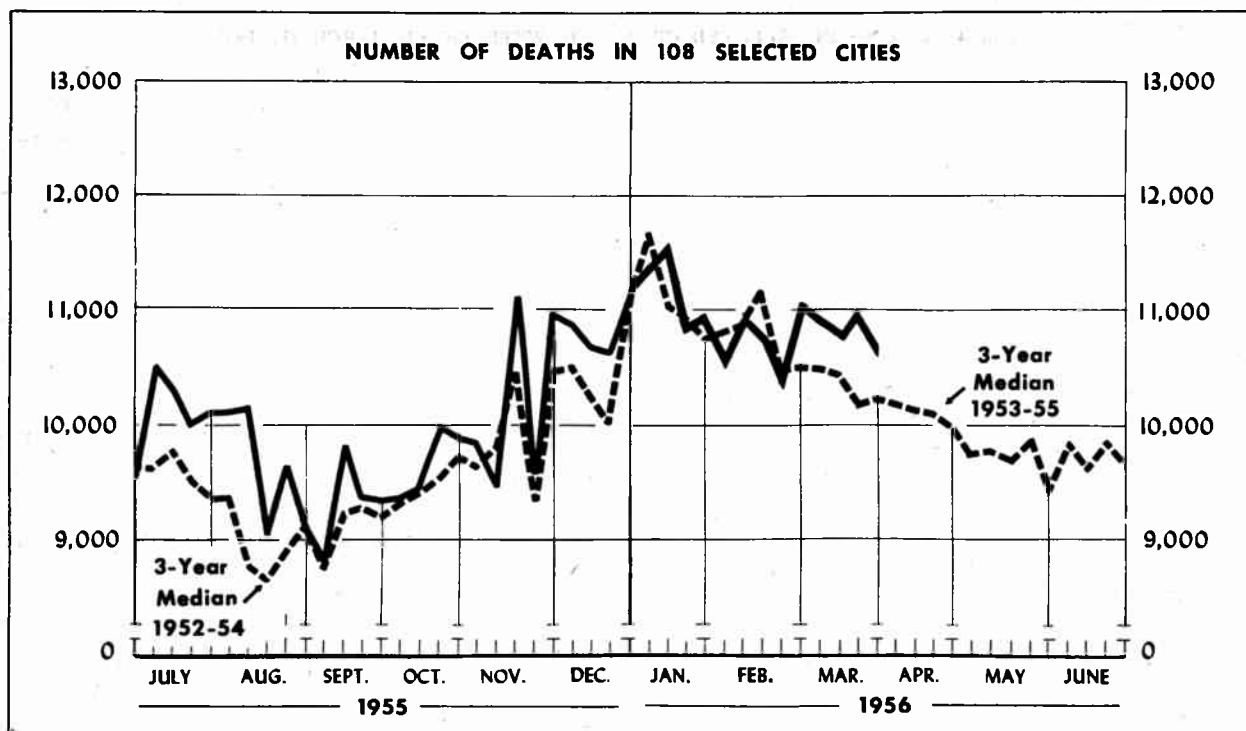
Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED APRIL 2, 1955 AND MARCH 31, 1956—Continued

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS		MENINGITIS, OTHER	PSITTACOSIS		TYPHOID FEVER 040				TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	
	057		340	096.2		13th week		Cumulative first 13 weeks		101		
	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES <sup>1</sup> -----	67	78	29	11	3	21	17	313	307	2	105	150
NEW ENGLAND-----	8	2	3	-	-	1	-	13	4	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	4	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	10	15	-	2	-	-	1	43	43	-	7	16
New York-----	8	10	-	1	-	-	-	15	8	-	4	8
New Jersey-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	4	-	1	-	-	1	25	32	-	3	8
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	11	14	11	3	1	3	2	40	35	-	14	12
Ohio-----	6	3	-	-	-	-	1	10	21	-	6	2
Indiana-----	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	6	2
Illinois-----	1	4	7	3	-	-	1	5	8	-	-	3
Michigan-----	3	2	2	-	-	1	-	8	5	-	-	2
Wisconsin-----	1	3	-	-	1	1	-	12	1	-	2	3
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	5	4	-	1	-	1	-	49	18	-	11	27
Minnesota-----	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	24	1	-	1	2
Iowa-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	2	13
Missouri-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	6	-	7	11
North Dakota-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	1	1
Kansas-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	6	12	6	-	1	5	3	49	50	-	17	31
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	4	1	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	15	-	9	14
West Virginia-----	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	6	4	-	3	4
North Carolina-----	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	10	4	-	1	4
South Carolina-----	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	7	6	-	2	7
Georgia-----	-	1	1	-	1	2	1	8	10	-	2	2
Florida-----	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	9	9	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	8	10	5	1	-	2	4	34	38	-	13	17
Kentucky-----	5	1	1	-	-	-	3	6	25	-	4	6
Tennessee-----	-	3	3	1	-	1	-	19	6	-	-	3
Alabama-----	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	2	6	-	8	5
Mississippi-----	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	7	1	-	1	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	6	7	-	-	-	7	2	50	66	2	27	38
Arkansas-----	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	10	13	-	4	6
Louisiana-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	7	18	-	8	-
Oklahoma-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-	-
Texas-----	4	4	-	-	-	5	1	26	28	2	15	32
MOUNTAIN-----	2	2	1	1	-	1	-	9	26	-	2	-
Montana-----	-	(-)	-	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	-	(-)
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Colorado-----	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	13	-	2	-
Arizona-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	11	12	3	3	1	1	5	26	27	-	14	9
Washington-----	1	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	3	3	-	-	-
California-----	10	8	-	1	-	1	4	23	24	-	14	9
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	13	21	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup>Data exclude report for Montana.

## Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



The chart shows the number of deaths reported for 108 major cities of the United States by week for the current year, and, for comparison, the median of the number of deaths reported for the corresponding weeks of the 3 previous calendar years. (The median is the central one of the three values arranged in order of magnitude.) If a report is not received from a city in time to be included in the total for the current week, an estimate is made to maintain comparability for graphic presentation.

The figures reported represent the number of death certificates received in the vital statistics offices during the week indicated for deaths occurring in that city. Figures compiled in this way, by week of receipt, usually approximate closely the number of deaths occurring during the week. However, differences are to be expected because of variations in the

interval between death and receipt of the certificate.

While week-to-week changes in the total number of deaths reported for all major cities generally represent a change in mortality conditions, this may not be true for variations in weekly figures for each city. For example, in a city with a weekly average of 50 deaths, the number of deaths occurring in a week may be expected to vary by chance alone from  $36$  to  $64$  ( $d \pm 2\sqrt{d}$ , where  $d$  represents the average number of deaths per week).

The number of deaths in cities of the same size may also differ because of variations in the age, race, and sex composition of their populations, and because some cities are hospital centers serving the surrounding areas. Changes from year to year in the number of deaths may be due in part to population increases or decreases.

Table 3. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

AREA	13th week ended Mar. 31, 1956	12th week ended Mar. 24, 1956	13th week median 1953-55	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 13 WEEKS		
					1956	1955	Percent change
TOTAL: 104 REPORTING CITIES-----	9,844	10,041	9,399	+4.7	129,736	126,911	+2.2
New England----- (14 cities)	701	756	689	+1.7	9,357	9,764	-4.2
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,239	3,273	2,926	+10.7	41,131	41,160	-0.1
East North Central----- (17 cities)	1,978	1,898	1,917	+3.2	26,556	25,369	+4.7
West North Central----- (9 cities)	719	747	713	+0.8	10,123	9,677	+4.6
South Atlantic----- (8 cities)	814	804	704	+15.6	10,405	9,672	+7.6
East South Central----- (8 cities)	449	496	477	-5.9	6,502	6,350	+2.4
West South Central----- (13 cities)	805	877	785	+2.5	11,284	10,739	+5.1
Mountain----- (7 cities)	232	260	211	+10.0	3,256	3,254	+0.7
Pacific----- (11 cities)	907	830	837	+8.4	11,122	10,946	+1.6

# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 31, 1956

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

CITY	13th week ended Mar. 31, 1956	12th week ended Mar. 24, 1956	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 13 WEEKS		CITY	13th week ended Mar. 31, 1956	12th week ended Mar. 24, 1956	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 13 WEEKS	
			1956	1955				1956	1955
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston, Mass.-----	230	270	3,245	3,376	St. Louis, Mo.-----	261	254	3,385	2,935
Bridgeport, Conn.-----	36	41	467	513	St. Paul, Minn.-----	57	62	869	883
Cambridge, Mass.-----	34	33	424	387	Wichita, Kans.-----	47	36	535	505
Fall River, Mass.-----	32	23	371	406	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford, Conn.-----	53	48	623	668	Atlanta, Ga.-----	121	127	1,530	1,365
Lovell, Mass.-----	17	34	322	318	Baltimore, Md.-----	230	225	3,189	3,064
Lynn, Mass.-----	20	19	267	323	Charlotte, N. C.-----	29	23	431	436
New Bedford, Mass.-----	20	35	321	329	Jacksonville, Fla.-----	(58)	(42)	(728)	(635)
New Haven, Conn.-----	37	57	669	629	Miami, Fla.-----	---	(44)	---	(698)
Providence, R. I.-----	75	73	839	904	Norfolk, Va.-----	51	28	469	467
Somerville, Mass.-----	22	15	211	227	Richmond, Va.-----	87	68	961	894
Springfield, Mass.-----	48	44	579	589	Savannah, Ga.-----	(24)	(34)	(367)	(397)
Waterbury, Conn.-----	24	25	343	354	Tempe, Fla.-----	68	58	817	784
Worcester, Mass.-----	53	39	676	741	Washington, D. C.-----	187	235	2,537	2,165
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmingon, Del.-----	41	40	471	497
Albany, N. Y.-----	56	58	685	620	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown, Pa.-----	(37)	(45)	(494)	(473)	Birmingham, Ala.-----	72	87	1,060	1,079
Buffalo, N. Y.-----	132	186	1,916	1,813	Chattanooga, Tenn.-----	36	48	557	603
Camden, N. J.-----	38	47	516	516	Knoxville, Tenn.-----	21	40	512	473
Elizabeth, N. J.-----	49	27	396	388	Louisville, Ky.-----	101	101	1,459	1,474
Erie, Pa.-----	36	35	467	472	Memphis, Tenn.-----	98	91	1,360	1,300
Jersey City, N. J.-----	91	92	1,011	993	Mobile, Ala.-----	37	30	445	373
Newark, N. J.-----	100	93	1,309	1,447	Montgomery, Ala.-----	27	31	373	371
New York City, N. Y.-----	1,677	1,680	21,174	21,704	Nashville, Tenn.-----	57	60	736	677
Paterson, N. J.-----	36	36	487	529	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia, Pa.-----	532	535	6,654	6,537	Austin, Tex.-----	37	35	421	353
Pittsburgh, Pa.-----	195	178	2,597	2,418	Baton Rouge, La.-----	16	16	289	292
Reading, Pa.-----	(22)	(29)	(287)	(310)	Corpus Christi, Tex.-----	12	20	253	237
Rochester, N. Y.-----	100	111	1,321	1,276	Dallas, Tex.-----	111	106	1,377	1,272
Schenectady, N. Y.-----	24	25	313	300	El Paso, Tex.-----	17	17	367	363
Scranton, Pa.-----	(37)	(31)	(446)	(460)	Fort Worth, Tex.-----	65	70	785	721
Syracuse, N. Y.-----	54	58	814	727	Houston, Tex.-----	80	143	1,694	1,718
Trenton, N. J.-----	52	55	618	635	Little Rock, Ark.-----	50	42	638	548
Utica, N. Y.-----	30	40	421	395	New Orleans, La.-----	142	169	2,232	2,096
Yonkers, N. Y.-----	37	47	432	390	Oklahoma City, Okla.-----	65	78	848	770
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio, Tex.-----	93	96	1,166	1,175
Akron, Ohio-----	42	60	691	726	Shreveport, La.-----	51	47	605	567
Canton, Ohio-----	30	29	358	354	Tulsa, Okla.-----	66	38	609	627
Chicago, Ill.-----	753	779	10,172	9,607	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati, Ohio-----	187	130	2,176	2,055	Albuquerque, N. Mex.-----	16	28	301	355
Cleveland, Ohio-----	210	223	2,758	2,692	Colorado Springs, Colo.-----	7	16	185	177
Columbus, Ohio-----	116	114	1,487	1,436	Denver, Colo.-----	106	120	1,462	1,507
Deyton, Ohio-----	73	67	899	865	Ogden, Utah-----	16	9	163	135
Detroit, Mich.-----	---	(337)	---	(4,346)	Phoenix, Ariz.-----	24	26	366	333
Evansville, Ind.-----	28	32	473	416	Pueblo, Colo.-----	13	10	168	181
Flint, Mich.-----	26	40	498	467	Salt Lake City, Utah-----	50	51	611	546
Fort Wayne, Ind.-----	40	24	488	427	Tucson, Ariz.-----	---	(6)	---	(64)
Gary, Ind.-----	(27)	(20)	1(373)	(364)	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids, Mich.-----	47	54	568	535	Berkeley, Calif.-----	16	15	261	226
Indianapolis, Ind.-----	103	123	1,579	1,505	Long Beach, Calif.-----	46	38	706	679
Milwaukee, Wis.-----	130	123	1,669	1,576	Los Angeles, Calif.-----	---	(496)	---	(6,439)
Peoria, Ill.-----	25	21	365	378	Oakland, Calif.-----	115	105	1,261	1,224
South Bend, Ind.-----	22	23	326	324	Pasadena, Calif.-----	41	42	505	460
Toledo, Ohio-----	98	90	1,314	1,309	Portland, Oreg.-----	95	75	1,306	1,239
Youngstown, Ohio-----	48	66	735	697	Sacramento, Calif.-----	61	45	665	643
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego, Calif.-----	95	74	988	1,057
Des Moines, Iowa-----	49	46	694	636	San Francisco, Calif.-----	207	217	2,689	2,601
Duluth, Minn.-----	26	29	318	342	Seattle, Wash.-----	129	127	1,652	1,748
Kansas City, Kans.-----	25	25	395	480	Spokane, Wash.-----	51	57	605	568
Kansas City, Mo.-----	88	105	1,416	1,480	Tacoma, Wash.-----	51	35	484	501
Minneapolis, Minn.-----	106	123	1,640	1,563	Honolulu, Hawaii-----	(24)	(44)	(452)	(471)
Omaha, Nebr.-----	60	67	871	853					

<sup>1</sup>Amended report: 26 deaths for week ended March 17.

Symbols.—parentheses [ ( ) ] : data not included in table 3; 3 dashes [ --- ] : data not available.

## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

hundred cases have occurred with an incubation period of 6 to 14 days. Onset was sudden with low fever, small bright red maculo-papules which enlarged and coalesced. Although the eruption was sometimes confined to the face, it usually spread to the extremities, especially the outside portions of the arms. Itching and a fine desquamation followed in some instances.

Dr. James O. Bond, Florida State Board of Health, has given information about an outbreak of erythema infectiosum among school children. However, of the 50 cases reported for the 6-week period ended March 28, 6 have been in adults. All cases presented the typical pattern—bright red cheeks giving the appearance of having been slapped or chapped, followed in 24 to 48 hours by a delicate erythematous mottling of the skin on the volar surfaces of the forearm, on the extensor surfaces of the upper arm and thighs, and, less frequently, on the chest and abdomen. There was occasional low fever and itching of the skin.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. James O. Bond, Florida State Board of Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among persons eating banana cream pie and chocolate eclairs in a country club. None of the pastries were available for bacteriological examination. However, there is no question that the custard used in both pastries was contaminated.

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